

## Saturday Gazette.

Bloomfield and Montclair, N. J.

W. F. LYON, Editor and Proprietor.  
CHAS. N. DAVIS, Associate Editor.OUR PRINCIPAL OFFICE is next door  
to the Post Office in Bloomfield.

## The Saturday Gazette.

BLOOMFIELD AND MONTCLAIR.

An independent weekly journal of LITERATURE, EDUCATION, POLITICS, GENERAL NEWS and LOCAL INTERESTS.

All public and local questions, including political and social, sanitary and reformatory, educational and industrial topics will be clearly presented and fairly and fairly discussed.

It is intended and expected to make it not only readable and interesting to the general reader, but of special value to citizens of the county and of real importance to every resident of Bloomfield, Montclair and Caldwell.

Nothing will be admitted to its columns that is unworthy of cordial welcome to every family circle.

Settled Clergymen in the county and all Public School Teachers in the county will receive the paper gratuitously by sending their address.

It should prove a valuable medium for advertisers. Our weekly circulation extends to every part of Essex county, and considerably elsewhere. SUBSCRIPTIONS and ADVERTISEMENTS will be received in Montclair, by E. Madison, in Caldwell, by M. Harrison, in Verona, by W. L. Scott, in Newark, by W. H. Winans, 445 Broad street, and at our office in Bloomfield, or by mail to Wm. F. Lyon, Editor, and Proprietor, Bloomfield, N. J.

## PROPERTY VALUATIONS.

THEY MUST BE RELATIVELY EQUAL.

In our discussion of this important subject we have studiously avoided all personalities. We have made no reflections upon the Assessors but have several times spoken in terms of confidence and commendation. Our position has been well considered, clearly presented, and logically maintained. Every fact we have stated was based upon knowledge, and we stand ready to prove them.

It is with no little surprise and regret that we notice a communication purporting to be from the Assessor, in which he attempts to weaken the force of our reasoning by citing in general terms from his books, simply a few instances at which the valuations of lands are at an average of \$600 per acre; and he appeals to an intelligent public to judge if the lands at the above valuations are not fully 40 per cent. of their cash value.

An intelligent public, including our excellent Assessor himself, will see that this is a mere citation does not controvert our position at all. That statement may be true without invalidating our facts or arguments.

We do not wonder that our suggestion of a particular classification of dwellings, for convenience of valuation, should strike many minds unfavorably. It was only designed to draw attention to the need of a fixed system, details of which could be modified according to the light and judgment that should be concentrated upon it. That particular plan is of no consequence at all.

Our position may be stated again in few words. 1st. The present assessment valuations of properties are not based upon established or just principles, but are irregular, arbitrary and unfair.

We do not claim originality for this proposition. We only embody in definite form and specific words, what has been known and complained against for several years, and which is now considered past endurance.

2nd. The present method of assessment valuations, virtually discriminates between the rich and the poor, making the small land holder pay a tax, in many instances, twice as great, in proportion, as the large property owner does.

Now, since "the Assessor undertakes to say that his books will show so much thing," we shall certainly be excused if, for our own justification, we prove from those books that from indubitable figures, that our "premises," as well as our "conclusions," are abundantly supported by them.

We copy from the Bloomfield Assessor's Book for 1873, without mentioning names, as we are only illustrating principles:

1st. A House and Lot of 2 Acres, cash value \$16,000. Assessed at 40 per cent. \$6,400. This may be considered a standard.

2nd. A House and 28 Acres: Assessed at \$14,500. Deduct for House and 3 acres, cash value being \$13,750, 40 per cent. on which would be \$5,500.

Leaving the 25 acres to be assessed at \$1,000.

But the cash value of this 25 acres is allowed by competent judges to be at least \$9,000, 40 per cent. on which would be \$3,600.

This, then, ought to be its assessed value, instead of which it is rated at less than half of that sum, or about one-fourth of its cash value!

3rd. A House and 21 acres: Assessed at \$11,000. Deduct for House and 3 acres cash value \$10,000, 40 per cent. on which would be \$4,000.

Leaving 18 acres to be assessed at \$1,000.

4th. A House and 114 acres: Assessed at \$13,800. Deduct for House and 3 acres (cash value \$16,000; 40 per cent. on which would be) \$6,400.

Leaving 111 acres to be assessed at \$7,400.

But the cash value of this 111 acres is allowed by competent judges to be at least \$31,500, 40 per cent. on which would be \$12,600.

This then ought to be its assessed value; instead of which it is rated at less than half that sum, or one-fifth of the cash value!

5th. A House and 44 acres: Assessed at \$26,400. Deduct for House and 3 acres (cash value \$16,000, 40 per cent. on which would be) \$6,400.

Leaving 41 acres to be assessed at \$20,000.

But the cash value of this 41 acres is allowed by competent judges to be at least \$84,000, 40 per cent. on which would be \$33,600.

This then ought to be its assessed value; instead of which it is rated at a little over half that sum, or less than one-quarter of its cash value!

But the cash value of this 19 acres is allowed by competent judges to be at least \$1,000 per acre, or \$19,000, 40 per cent. on which would be \$7,600.

This then ought to be its assessed value; instead of which it is rated at a little over one-half that sum, or about one-fourth of its cash value!

6th. A House and 114 acres: Assessed at \$13,800. Deduct for House and 3 acres (cash value \$16,000; 40 per cent. on which would be) \$6,400.

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7th. A House and 44 acres: Assessed at \$26,400. Deduct for House and 3 acres (cash value \$16,000, 40 per cent. on which would be) \$6,400.

Leaving 41 acres to be assessed at \$20,000.

But the cash value of this 41 acres is allowed by competent judges to be at least \$84,000, 40 per cent. on which would be \$33,600.

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consideration in committees, and great freedom of discussion in the Council, they have adopted a revision of the Prayer Book, which to us seems a real improvement and eminently suitable and worthy of this Reformed Church.

We regret to notice in the editorial columns of the New York Times (usually the fiercest and most champion of justice, reform and progress) a carping criticism upon some of the most timely and fitting changes effected by this revision of the Book of Common Prayer.

There is manifestly an important work for this Church to do, and we trust they will see to it that they do not "fail of the grace of God." May their candid criticism continue on forever to be the foundation of a light that shall radiate far and wide and lead many an erring one into the protecting fold, strengthening the weak, comforting the despondent, arousing the careless, encouraging the reformer and directing all to the Divine Master.

To TEACHERS.—We shall be happy to receive communications for the educational column of our paper from Teachers, Ministers and others. "Experience is the best school master."

We ought to be abundantly supplied with acceptable and useful communications; facts and fancies from the school rooms, conceptions and experiences from the 100 teachers in Essex County who get the GAZETTE weekly. Would be glad sometimes to get a creditable piece from a pupil.

Is there any Dry Good's window in Newark that deserves attracts more attention for its fine and tasty display of rich and varied goods than Marvin Dodd & Co's, 659 Broad Street.

RHEUMATISM.—Freiligh's Remedy, which has been advertised in our columns for sometime past, is commended to our faith by respectable gentlemen whom we know, as an excellent remedy for rheumatism. It can doubtless be obtained at our drug stores in Bloomfield and Montclair.

RAIL ROAD FACILITIES.—We have had very little reason to complain of our Rail Road accommodations. The Delaware Lackawanna and Western Company have generally manifested a disposition to meet the reasonable wants of our towns and travellers on the Bloomfield branch. The trains are frequent enough; the hours for starting are, for the most part, satisfactory; the time made, it is believed, might be shortened five minutes, without loss to the company, and with real advantage to all who use this road. We think it would inure to the benefit of the company. The conductors are courteous and obliging; they understand their business and attend to it; we should say with fidelity. The baggage masters and brakemen have almost invariably won the good opinions of the patrons of the road and deserve commendation.

The Road is kept in good condition and the trains are run with punctuality and safety. To Bloomfielders it is a kind of domestic institution for which they cherish a sort of family affection.

There is one improvement that would add much to the comfort and convenience of many—that is to make the first train down in the morning a through train without any detention at Newark.

Many both in Bloomfield and Montclair are obliged to take that early train (and the number is increasing) who cannot afford to lose ten or fifteen minutes every day at Newark. We would earnestly commend this desire to President Bissell and company and hope they may devise a practical plan to afford this relief at an early day, an accommodation that will be well appreciated.

THE OYSTER STEAMERS have withdrawn from Boston and will run only to New York.

THE MEXICAN CONGRESS have voted an appropriation of \$70,000 to provide for a proper representation of that country at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition.

A TERRIBLE DISASTER occurred in Mill River Valley, Mass., last Sunday morning. The dam of the Mill River Reservoir suddenly gave way precipitating all its reservoir of water down the narrow valley, carrying everything before it, houses, mills, bridges, factories, and resulting in an hour or two in the destruction of a large amount of property and of more than 900 human lives, and occasioning irreparable destruction and suffering among the survivors.

The Annual Episcopal Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey, will be held in Grace Church, Newark, on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

We are sorry to be compelled to defer till another week interesting letters already in type from Caldwell and from Italy; also an interesting Educational column.

HOME MATTERS.

BLOOMFIELD.

Range of Thermometer at Bloomfield Centre, May 18 15 16 17 18 19 20

At 6 A.M. 60° 58° 51° 59° 54° 48° 49° At Noon 60° 63° 58° 70° 69° 63° 63° At 6 P.M. 62° 53° 61° 59° 52° 53° 54°

Improvements.—Mr. Geo. W. Smith of Ridgewood Avenue is making a very handsome addition to his residence. It will probably be the finest house on that avenue at least until Mr. Page builds his new house.

A fine improvement is going on on Bloomfield Avenue near Berkeley Avenue, in walling, grading and terracing

front of Tichenor's and Beatty's residences. Mr. Jay L. Adams is introducing gas into the three new houses opposite his residence.

FLORAL.—Directed by the engineering management of our Station Agent, Mr. Somerville, Backus has supplied that center bluff and pedestal, back of the M. & E. R. R. depot, with a variety of flowering plants that proves the cynosure of all eyes.

TOM COLLINS.—Who is he? Where has he gone? When will he be here again.

HARNESS.—C. C. Corby always has an extensive variety on hand. There is probably no better place in the county to get a good outfit in this line. Read his advertisement.

THIEVES.—Another robbery committed this time in Morris neighborhood. Mr. S. J. Potter's carriage house was entered last Sunday night and a splendid robe and fine set of harness taken.

The value of the grab we understand to be over \$200.

Our Police arrangements are beautiful and convenient. They consist in "advising every one to 'lock the stable door after the horse is stolen.' What could be more simple! If this does not remove the discomfort, their sovereign panacea is, 'grin and bear it.'"

At an annual meeting of the stockholders of this Company, held May 13, the following named gentlemen were elected directors: Joseph A. Davis, Amos Dodd, Augustus T. Morris, T. W. Langstroth, Daniel Dodd, A. A. Smalley, Beach Vanderpool, James M. Lowrey, Eugene Vanderpool, J. J. H. Love, R. M. Henning.

MONTCLAIR.

Pursuant to call of Trustees the legal voters of School District No. 8 (Montclair) met on Monday evening, May 13. A large number of the citizens of the district were present. Col. Harris was elected Chairman, and Charles J. Reeves, Secretary. District Clerk presented a statement of the finances from September 1, 1873 to May 1, 1874. Two thousand dollars was voted to be raised by special tax to pay off debt on school-house, and ten thousand dollars was voted to be raised by special tax for the current expenses of the school during the ensuing year.

TOWN COUNCIL.—MONTCLAIR, May 20, 1874.

Town Committee met pursuant to adjournment. All members present. Parties in interest on the line of St. Luke's heard.

Report of Road Commissioners on the extension of Union Street ratified and adopted.

Petitions received for sidewalks on following streets:

1. Fullerton Avenue extension.

2. Bloomfield Avenue from 300 feet east of Elm Street to the township line.

3. Bloomfield Avenue, west side in front of property of estate of H. H. Lloyd.

4. On old road in front of property of Philip Doremus.

5. On Ragle rock way 330 feet.

All sidewalk petitions were referred to standing committee on sidewalks.

Public meeting to vote tax for sidewalks called for June 2, 1874.

Contract for printing copies of report of the Road Improvement Committee awarded to E. Madison.

Petition received from property owners to open and work Cliff-side avenue.

Clerk directed to ascertain from the Collector if all the assessments on above avenue have been paid.

Town Collector requested to furnish the committee at the first regular meeting of each month a written statement of all his receipts and disbursements for the preceding month.

Bill of Joseph Carson for repair of roads from April 13 to May 9, 1874.

Ordered paid.

Proposals solicited for grading and working of the extension of Walnut St. and the extension of Gates Avenue according to plans and specifications in Engineer's office.

Parties interested in the widening of that portion of Fullerton Avenue will be heard on May 27.

OBITUARY.

The sudden death of Mr. F. P. Terry has cast a shade of gloom over this community that cannot be dispelled by a passing word, nor yet by staided silence.

On Sunday the 10th inst. Mr. Terry was at church and during the day was well as usual, though a little on his face attracted some attention. The next day that indication of the hidden destroyer developed into what the physicians considered erysipelas, but which was found to be even more venomous—a malignant pustule, affecting the brain and superinducing drowsiness and resulting fatally in a few hours.

Mr. Terry had resided in Montclair only a little over a year but had secured the esteem of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Of modest, unobtrusive manner, of kindly feelings, a generous nature and a benevolent heart, his sympathies ever inclined him to respond according to his circumstances by labors, or by suitable bounty to every worthy call of humanity or of Christianity.

His religion did not evaporate in words, he was a very practical Christian. With the beginning of his own family responsibilities he consecrated an altar to his God where he daily found a restful and refreshing

The church and society here, the loved wife and the infant pledge of mutual affection, will mourn their severe bereavement, and at Irvington on the Hudson, a father's home and an entire community where our young friend was born, and spent his youthful days, and united with the church at the age of fourteen, will be shadowed with sorrow at their own loss, however they may be consoled at his infinite gain.

CARRIAGE MAKING.—Mr. J. D. Mockridge, with a reputation in his business, and a thorough experience that should inspire confidence, has removed his carriage manufactory to Montclair where we hope he will receive his full share of patronage from all the country round.

See his advertisement.

CALDWELL.

CALDWELL.—Last week Mrs. Daniel Griffith shot and killed an eagle near her home. It measured, from tip to tip of wings, five feet seven inches.

An Englishman, named William Torrey, formerly in the employ of Dr. Hunter of this village, left his home some three weeks since ostensibly to visit New York, and has not been heard from since. He took with him about four hundred dollars in money and a lot of musical traps, of which he was possessed—also, it is surmised, an evil spirit! His wife is anxious to hear from him. I think Torrey is less than 'all' and 'alf' on the home question.

The Young Ladies Social Union gave another interesting entertainment, on the evening of the 15th inst., at the residence of Judge John McCreary. One more entertainment closes the series for this season.

Mr. A. Beardsley, landlord of the summer hotel here, is doing his level best to provide comfortable quarters for his expected guests. Evidently, Mr. B. knows how to keep a hotel and I predict for him liberal patronage. He deserves it.

There is not much doing here in real estate this Spring. Bloomfield Ave. is not blooming enough just now to invite purchasers to the "Gem of the Hills." Spades are trumps now—Telford will be soon. Then look out for "deals."

Gardens hereabout, notwithstanding the backwardness of the season, are looking remarkably well. They had a very sickly appearance about two weeks ago.

Ice can be had here for fifty cents per hundred weight. We propose to keep cool during the dog days.

Mr. Arthur Watling, the deservedly popular Pharmacist of this village, sent your correspondent a few days ago, a very tempting display of very tempting Ice-Cream. Mr. W. has added an Ice-Cream Saloon to his store.

"TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN."

Mr. Editor: The little opposition paper before setting up